

for Approval of Proposed Drawing Corrections, in which the above Figures have been identified as "Prior Art."

Claim Rejections:

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10 are all the claims pending in the application, and currently all of these claims stand corrected.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection – Claim 1:

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,350,145 to Chen et al.

Applicant submits herewith a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 signed by the inventors of the above referenced application indicating that the inventors of the present invention were in possession of the present invention prior to the January 5, 2000 filing date of U.S. Patent No. 6,350,145 to Chen et al. The attached Declaration, and the exhibits attached thereto, indicate that the inventors of the above referenced application invented the present invention prior to January 5, 2000.

As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the Chen reference is not available as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), and hereby requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejection of claim 1.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections – Claims 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 10:

Claims 2, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of the Koch and Murakami references (as indicated in the May 16, 2002 Office Action). However, as noted above, because the Chen reference is not available as prior

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No. 09/910,872

Our Ref.: Q65548
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art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), Applicant hereby requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections of claims 2, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10.

Conclusion:

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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